

**ABSTRACT**

A female format connector, usable for connection with a male format connector having an alignment pin is described as having a high-precision piece coupled to a low precision piece. The low precision piece has an alignment opening dimensioned to accept the alignment pin of the male format device. The high-precision piece also has an alignment opening. The alignment openings are sized and positioned for accurate alignment between the pieces during coupling and, after coupling, the high-precision piece is modified such that the second alignment opening, after modification, is larger than it was prior to the coupling. A method of forming a female format ferrule involves coupling a high precision piece to a low precision piece, via alignment holes on each, the alignment holes are sized to accept a common alignment pin for maintaining accurate alignment between the pieces during coupling, and, after coupling, removing some of the alignment hole wall.